

## Valérie Devon

Presents

## Vincent Reynouard editorials

Acquittal for Philippe Pétain

Sans Concession tv Editorials tv Finally, on November 16, 1945, The Citadelle opens again its doors to welcome the oldest world prisoner, Marshal Petain, 90 years old, former French Chief of State, sentenced to life imprisonment. He stayed in the central building of the fort then, he transferred on June 6, 1951, due to his health, in a particular house of Port-Joinville where he died the following July on the 23rd.

I am here today at L'Île-d'Yeu, in front of Marshal Petain's grave. It's not that I have an overflowing sympathy for the character. Personally, I would have preferred that after the defeat France overthrown the alliances declared war to England, and put all his weight on the side of the Third Reich for the victory of Europe.



But anyway. The Marshal did what he could. And among all the accusations uttered against that man, there is that of overthrowing the Republic to install, one would say, a kind of dictatorship in France with a unique character, a unique party, and so on. But, this accusation is completely fallacious, it is false.

Petain didn't overthrow the Republic. For a very simple reason: is that the Republic, didn't die on July 10, 1940, it didn't die either in the signing of the Armistice. It died on September 3, 1939. When France entered illegally into the war against Germany. And war was declared at the time, I remind you, by the French Republic President, by the government leader, Edouard Daladier, which means that the Republic was raped and killed by the very people who should have been serving it. Let me explain.

Article 9 of the Third Republic Constitution was very clear: "The war could only be declared with the consent of both chambers", that is to say, the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. This Article was rather logical, It basically meant: "Listen, you will not send the children of the French people to death without the consent of the people that the French mandated to represent them in the government." Therefore the young boys of France will not go to death

without those whom they elected, or whom their parents elected for them in their name ordered it. Such was the purpose of Article 9.

But, what happened? Well, when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, France had to take a decision. So, to start with, Paul Reynaud said, "well, we are going to question the Deputies to find out if they would not vote for credits for the war which was beginning." And then, he thought: "No. There is no war yet." On September 1st, 1939, and on September 2, 39 there was no war. "Therefore we are going to ask the elected people if they would vote for credits so that France can meet its commitments." Basically, the commitment was to help Poland, so to go to war. So one said, "But wait, we are not yet gone to war." So the formula was still somewhat reduced. And the parliamentarians were asked if they would agree to vote for war credits, "due to the international situation". Well.

So there is the question that comes to the Chambers, the Senate and the Deputies. "Do you want to vote for war credits due to the present international situation?"

But, at the time, some elected members have sensed the scam wondering what it was that they wanted them to vote for exactly? And in the Senate, Pierre Laval stood up, asking to speak. the Senate President, Jules Jeanneney, told him: "No, no discussion. We do not discuss. We vote the credits or we refuse to vote for them, but, we do not discuss." Pierre Laval was still able to express himself saying: "Attention, I have signed agreements in 1935, (he was talking about the Stresa Agreements) to maintain peace, and I am asking people to remember that."

The most grotesque took place in the Chamber of Deputies. But, at the Deputies Chambers, same thing, no possible discussions. "One vote without discussion, or don't vote, but no discussions." And a notorious pacifist, Gaston Bergery, wanted to speak. And he was forbidden to. He couldn't express himself, he couldn't develop his argumentation. But, at the end of the session. While deputies voted these credits, another Deputy stood up, named Petrus Faure, and he asked to the President of the Chamber, Edouard Herriot, "Mr. President, is it certain that the government, will not commit irreversible measures without referring to the chambers?" Pétrus Faure foresaw the scam. He foresaw that in voting for war credits, in fact, the government would take advantage to declare war, he therefore really asked to Herriot: "Are you positive that we only vote war credits here?" That the government would not take advantage to take a more serious decision?" And what did Herriot say? Herriot answered: "It is not for I to answer this question."

Therefore there was, and here its one, at this time, a real conspiracy against peace. And indeed, on September 3, 1939, France declared war to Germany, then according to its alliances, etc. I demonstrated in another video that our alliance with Poland was obsolete at the time. But was is certain, is that France declared war to Germany totally illegally. In total illegality, since the Chambers had not been consulted. And as later wrote Pierre Mouton and J. Rinaldi in a book entitled: "Un Crime contre la France" [A Crime Against France] They said: "In 1939, our elected people didn't declare war proudly parading under the pediments decorated with blue, white, red, no, no, no they have not declared war like this, they went

*through the low door and the stairs."* They raped Article 9 of the Constitution. They did without the consent of the Chambers. And why did they go without the approval of the Chambers?

Because at the time, many Deputies and Senators knew perfectly that France was not ready for war. Already the military under the cover of secrecy had said: "If we declare war we are going to a new Sedan. and it will go even faster." France was therefore not ready for war, and the French people didn't want war. As later, Roland Dorgelès wrote it: "At the time, men hurried before the radio saying: "My God, may peace be preserved." Women were in the Churches and prayed for peace." The French people didn't want war. And in the Chambers, it is certain that it would have suffice a shout, of a word of Pierre Laval or Gaston Bergery to say: "No, no, we are not going to die for Dantzig! First, because our alliance with Poland is obsolete, but, most of all because we are not ready, and we are facing a disaster."

So, this is why, the warmonger clan, declared war and ensured that France declared war without the consent of the Chambers. Therefore, it was a totally illegal war for purely ideological reasons, as I have already shown in another video.

This is why, when today one accuses Marshal Petain, of having overthrown the Republic, gentlemen who make this charges, show a little decency! Marshal Petain, was as Laval said, the trustee of a bankruptcy, the trustee of a defeat the trustee of a fraudulently declared war, What did Marshal Petain do? He did what he could.

Finally, what is the story about Marshal Petain? It is the story of a government which, for ideological reasons, declares a war illegally, that is to say in violation of the Constitution. A totally unprepared war, turns quickly to Berezina. And once the Berezina spreads out in front of everyone, those who have declared war flee their responsibilities. And they push instead in the front, and old man. The victor of Verdun. The one that the people awaits. And it's this old man who is going to be their shield. And they told him: "Go! Now that we have lost and that we dare not to take our responsibilities go defend, Mr. Marshal, the interests of France!"

So, during 4 years, the Marshal, he is going, all in all, tried to defend a country's interests in a world war. And he will try to defend interests facing an occupant which, considering the turn of events, will become more and more demanding. And then, fate turns. The winner undergoes gradually, a military defeat. And 4 years later, those who scattered those who escaped their responsibilities, Came back, in Anglo-American vans. And then, they pretended to wear their court dresses and say, pointing their fingers to the Marshal: "But, what have you done? You betrayed! You sold France! You allowed Jews be deported, etc. etc. You have killed the Republic!" The height of cynicism naturally.

That is the story of the Marshal.

It is one of the events of the Story of France the most tragic and cynical.

It's a man who they used as a shield at the time of Berezina, -a Berezina that they did provoke for ideological reason and for unpreparedness- and once the shield is no longer needed, they come back in the foreigner vans, and they pretend to judge this old man who didn't ask for anything. This old man who would have like to stay home quietly to retire.

What cynicism!

## What impudence!

This is why today, personally, the Marshal, is policy wouldn't have been mine, but, I think at least and that his last wishes are carried out and that he should not be here any longer and that his last wishes are carried out and that he should not be here any longer but that he should join his soldiers at the Douaumont ossuary, that is at least the minimum that one could do for him, for this man who tried to manage the interests of France at a time when, no one wanted to manage them.

Cheers Marshal!